(c) the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTERY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI S. KRISHAN KUMAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Questions do not arise.

Gas Based Fertilizer Plant

4732. SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to fix a cut-off date for the gas-based fertilizer plants to be fed by the HBJ pipeline, before which they are to be commissioned, failing which the available gas resource would be diverted to other uses; and

(b) if so, the decision taken in respect of each plant?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY DEFENCE (SHRI S. KRISHANKUMAR): (a) and (b). No such decision has been taken so far.

Steps to Reduce Import of Oil

473. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to check the powers of the oil bureaucracy;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps being taken to reduce the Import Bill which is likely to be increased due to the soviet Union's limit on supply of oil products to India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI S. KRISHAN KUMAR): (a) and (b). The bureaucracy is under the effective supervision and control of the Government.

(c) Steps to increase indigenous crude oil and refinery production, and to promote oil conservation and demand management measures, are being taken to reduce oil imports.

[*Translation*]

Joint Implementation of Irrigation Projects

4734. SHRI SIMON MARANDi: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether many State Government have refused to accept the advice of the Planning Commission regarding joint implementation of some irrigation Projects;

(b) if so, whether the implementation of such projects is likely to be affected adversely due to scarcity of funds as a result thereof;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the amount sanctioned by the Government to speed up the process of implementation of these irrigation projects during the current financial year, State-wise?

THE MNISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA:(a) to (d) Inter-State projects are formulated and taken up for joint implementation through mutual agreement between the basin States. Irrigation projects are investigated, formulated, planned and implemented by the State Governments out of